

Dear Sirs;

The NPRM for this docket proposes allowing the use of cell phones on aircraft. Chairman Powell's statement indicates that the FCC's goal is to foster development of technologies that will increase communications options. Eliminating the prohibition of cell phone use will not increase options. It will merely benefit a small portion of the people using air transportation.

As commissioner Copps acknowledges, use of cell phones for an extended period of time can be very disturbing to a significant number of the people who are supposed to benefit from the FCC's "development of communication technologies". While it has not been demonstrated that cell phones pose an interference problem to current technology, it has not been demonstrated that they are safe either.

Chairman Powell says that he does not want the FCC to "unnecessarily restrict the availability of ...wireless service". In fact, wireless service is already available in most aircraft. The current cost of wireless communication on board aircraft restricts its use to only those who truly need it. Allowing the unrestricted use of cell phones will allow, if not promote, unnecessary conversations and irritations. Both the FAA and the FCC have a responsibility for not only encouraging advances in technology, which benefits industry as much or more than the general public, but also in serving the interest of the majority. While in-flight phone use could be positive for me from a business perspective, I think the 'annoyance factor' outweighs any benefit.

Please consider those who are intended to benefit from the FCC's charter to improve communication and withdraw your proposed rulemaking. 'Protecting' spectrum users, above and beyond promoting development of communication, is not unprecedented. The FCC promulgates guidelines for indecency and pornography, which are certainly not affecting development of technology. While these are far more important considerations, it does, nevertheless, indicate that the FCC can adapt its charter when the public interest is impacted.